

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's Attorney of record Yuanmin Cai, Ph.D. (56,513) on 12/3/2010.

The application is amended as follows:

Claim 1 line 7, replace the word "having" with -- have--.

Claim 11, page 4 line 1, replace the word "having" with -- have --.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-20 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance
4. The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest either singularly or in combination the following limitation "multiple conductive carbon nanotubes lining said trench; and a trench conductor, surrounded by and in direct contact with said multiple conductive carbon nanotubes, filling said trench" as required by independent claim 1, 2 and 11.
5. The limitations such as substrate, trench in said substrate, conductive nanotubes, trench conductor as recited in claims 1, 2 and 11 are found in Stamper, Smalley, Lee et al., Rosner et al. and Hsu et al.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOSEF GEBREYESUS whose telephone number is (571)270-5765. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 7:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne A. Gurley can be reached on 571-272-1670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Lynne A. Gurley/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 2811

/YOSEF GEBREYESUS/
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11/3/2010